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January 18, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

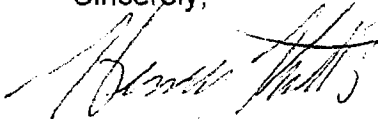
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

As a citizen of California I am very disappointed that the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice has not been accepted by my state. I believe that this suit has gone much farther than was ever appropriate. It is my opinion that the alleged crimes committed by this company are much less severe than a number of people have made them out to be. Microsoft does not deserve the callous treatment that they have been given, and the continuation of this already protracted suit will not benefit either the United States as a whole or the state of California.

The proposed settlement is well thought out and is a fair conclusion to this unfortunate litigation. Microsoft will not commit any further anti-trust infringements, the company will be monitored by a three-man oversight committee which will ensure that all business tactics engaged by the company in future are fair and do not lean towards monopolistic practices. The settlement ensures that Microsoft will not strike back against any company that develops products that compete against its own. And finally, Microsoft will develop all future versions of Windows to work more completely with the products of competing companies. This settlement will remedy any problems that any of Microsoft's competitors may have experienced when dealing with this company. All of the states should jump at the chance to accept the terms and finalize this costly litigation.

I understand the need to protect businesses and to ensure that there is a fair playing field for everyone. However, free enterprise must be protected. Without it, we lose the very fabric upon which we have built this nation. I believe that we need to move forward as a nation and to do so we need this settlement. Thank you for the work that you have done to bring this agreement about and for ensuring that we do not ring in another year with this costly litigation hanging around our necks.

Sincerely,



Henry Kath